

A NEW SUBSPECIES OF
FISSIDENTALIUM FORMOSUM (Adams and Reeve)
FROM THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

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On his way to Japan from Australia, Mr. Matthew Harrison, formerly president of the Marine Study Group of Victoria (National Museum of Victoria, Melbourne), visited Formosa to collect molluscs for his private collection and unexpectedly obtained a beautiful red-banded scaphopod which is new to science. Through his generosity, I have been able to examine it, and I am very pleased to describe it as a subspecies of *Fissidentalium* (*Pictodentalium*) *formosum* (Adams and Reeve) in honour of Mr. Harrison. I also express my thanks to Mr. Seiji Suzuki who gave me another specimen of this subspecies.

Fissidentalium (*Pictodentalium*) *formosum harrisoni* subsp. nov.

Figures 1 - 2

Shell large and long, slowly enlarging in diameter to the aperture, solid and gently curved dorsally. Surface with strong rounded longitudinal ribs, 15 - 17 in number, and broad concave intervals in the bottom of which occur weak interstitial riblets and weak growth lines at the apertural end. Colour richly variegated with deep red, fleshy red and white bands alternately placed. Inner surface covered by white enamel except at the edge of the aperture. Apical orifice circular internally and crenulated externally with a V-shaped notch on the ventral side. Aperture slightly oblique, circular internally, and rimmed by the ends of the ribs and riblets externally.

Holotype: length 90 mm, diameter of aperture 10.8 mm; from the collection of Mr. M. Harrison, deposited in the National Science Museum, NSMT Mo 37303.

Paratype: length 80.8 mm, diameter of aperture 12 mm; from the collection of Mr. S. Suzuki, deposited in the National Science Museum, NSMT Mo 37304.

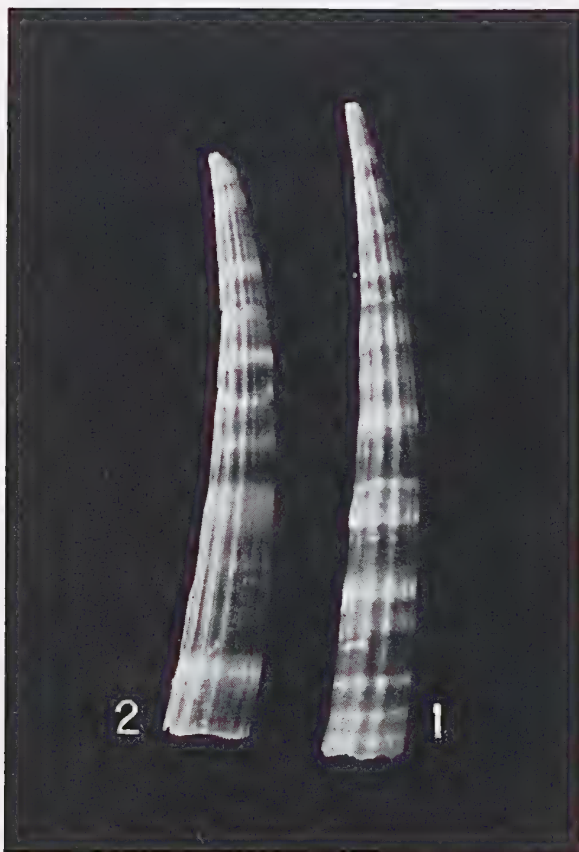
Type locality: South China Sea.

Remarks: This beautiful red-banded scaphopod has been obtained from Kaohsiung, Formosa, but is said to have been collected by trawling boats from the South China Sea. The new subspecies differs from typical specimens of *F. (P.) formosum* (Adams and Reeve) from the Philippines and the varietal form *hirasei* Kira from Japan in having (i) the narrower and longer shell less bent dorsally, (ii) red and white colour bands only without any trace of green, and (iii) the longitudinal ribs narrower than their intervals.

Mr. Harrison has since obtained two further specimens of this new subspecies from the same source in Formosa. These specimens remain in his private collection.

REFERENCES

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Fissidentalium (Pictodentalium) formosum
harrisoni subsp. nov. Fig. 1. Holotype Mo 37303,
from Harrison collection. Fig. 2. Paratype
Mo 37304, from Suzuki collection.